

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

The paragraph beginning at line 23 of page 3 has been amended as follows:

At this time, the structures of the ordinary conventional ink container and ink container holder (for example, those disclosed in Japanese Laid open Patent Application ~~2001-25308~~) 2001-253087, corresponding to U.S. Patent 6,375,315) will be described ~~will~~ with reference to the appended drawings. Figure 9 is a side view of the conventional replaceable ink container 102, and Figure 10 is a bottom plan view of the ink container 102.

The paragraph beginning at line 17 of page 16 has been amended as follows:

The lid 32 has through holes (unshown), and labyrinthine grooves (unshown). The through holes reach inward of the ink containers 3 and 4 from outside the lid 32. The labyrinthine grooves are in the outward surface of the lid 32, and extend from the through holes to the peripheries of the lid 32. The labyrinthine grooves are covered with a sheet 40 so that they are exposed to the ambient air only at the peripheries of the lid 32; air vents are provided. With the provision of this structural arrangement, it is possible to minimize the amount by which the inks in the ink containers 3 and 4 evaporate from the air vents 42; virtually no inks in the ink containers 3 and 4 evaporate from the air vents 42. The bottom wall of the container proper 31 is provided with a plurality of ink ~~outlets 35~~ outlets 33 through which inks are supplied to the ink container holder 5 side.

The paragraph beginning at line 10 of page 24 has been amended as follows:

The lid 32 is also virtually the same as that for the black ink container 3, except that the lid 32 of the color ink container 4 has three air ~~vents 43~~ vents 42, one for each chamber, and that it is structured to hermetically separate the three chambers from each other. Therefore, it will ~~be~~ not be described here.